

## **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the MSSA**

(For the period December 2014-December 2015)

MSSA Annual Meeting was held on 25.12.2015 in the hall for meetings „Porta Macedonia“. The annual meeting was attended by: prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski, prof. Dr. Risto Petrov, prof. Dr. Zoran Kitkanj, prof. Dr. Natasa Cicevska-Jovanova, Doc. Dr. Olivera Rasic Canevska, Mr. Jasmina Ivanovska-Troshanska, doc. Dr. Vladimir Ilievski, Ana Petkovska, Mr. Rozalija Davkovska, Mr. Magdalena Dimkova - Velevska, Dr. Silvana Markovska-Simonovska, prof. Dr. Daniela Dimitrova-Radojcik, Natasa Jovanoska, Peco Stojanovski, Stojan Andonov, Doc. Dr. Dejan Trajkov, Biljana Kujungik Nastevska, Doc. Dr. Natasa Stanojkovska-Trajkovska, Mr. Meri Nolcheva, Anita Stojcevska, Filip Jurtoski, Slavica Todorova, M-r Emilija Gorgievska, Elena Stamceska, Natasa Mladenovska, Vesna Kostik Ivanovik, Marija Maksiomova Atanasovska, Tanja, Stankova, Mr. Marija Avramovska, Doc. Dr. Ana Frichand.

Justified absent were: prof. Dr. Ljupco Ajdinski, Doc. Dr. Aleksnadar Petlickovski, Ivana Vasilevska – Petrevska, Ana Shikaleska.

The Annual Meeting officially began at 13.00 h. with the following

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Approval of the minutes of the Assembly of MSSA 2014**

The president of the MSSA presented the minutes of the assembly from 2014. After a fully representation the there was a vote in which the report was unanimously adopted by the participants.

#### **2. Admission of new members to the MSSA.**

For this item of the agenda the president announced that this year he has received just one application for membership, after which he called Anita Stojcevska to present herself. After a vote new member of the MSSA is Anita Stojcevska.

#### **3. Report od MSSA activities from 2014**

The president with proudly described 2015 as a very productive year for MSSA. And with great pleasure continued to present the activities that marked 2015.

**02.04.2015** - Participation of the president and vice president at a round table in organization of the office of the Ombudsman of Republic of Macedonia titled: „**The current position of**

**children with autism and their treatment in Republic of Macedonia – health, education and social“** held in the EU info center.

Prof. d-r Vladimir Trajkovski and m-r Jasmina Troshanska: „ The Autism in Republic of Macedonia – current condition, dilemmas and challenges“.

**7-16 May 2015** – Five members of MSSA held training for 15 teachers from OOU „Joakim Krcovski“ from Volkovo that was titled: „**Pupils with autism in the education process“**.

**May 2015** – We marked 15 years from the founding of MSSA through an internet and medium campaign.

**12.06.2015** – The defense of Meri Nolcheva’s master thesis titled: „ Stress, methods of handling and support for the parents with children with autistic spectrum disorder“.

**01.07.2015** – M-r Jasmina Troshanska lectured at the conference for „Inclusive education“ on the theme titled: „ Children with autism in the educational process“.

**01.09.2015** – This marks the start of the three year Erasmus plus EU project titled: „ Equality and social inclusion through positive parenting“.

**11.09.2015** – MSSA is co- publisher for the Journal of Special Education and Rehabilitation (JSER) together with the Institute for Special Education and Rehabilitation at the Faculty for Philosophy in Skopje.

**14.09.2015** – An organized lecture by d-r Paula Vercamp Bartholomeus from Holland titled: “Reattach: introduction to a new schema therapy” which was held at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje.

**28-30.09.2015** – Participation of the president and vice president at the first project meeting within the project „ Equality and social inclusion through positive parenting“ in the Northampton University in England.

**21.11.2014** – Participation of members of MSSA at the conference „Together to a better tomorrow“ that was organized by the society „White Moon“ from Turkey in hotel Continental.

**25.11.2015** – On the international competition for logo from the EU project between Croatia, Cyprus and Macedonia won the drawing „Autumn tree“ by Elena Delova from VIII4 class from POU „Zlatan Sremac“ with the special educator and rehabilitator Biljana K. Nastevska – member of MSSA.

**02.12.2015** – Participation of members of MSSA at the round table in organization of the office of the ombudsman of Republic of Macedonia titled: „The children with autism in the regular primary schools“.

Prof. d-r Vladimir Trajkovski „The Autism in the curriculum of the Institute of Special Education and Rehabilitation“.

**03.12.2015** – MSSA was elected as the winner for best scientific work by the foundation „Prof. d-r Ljupco Ajdinski“, and won 15.000 denars.

**From December 2014-December 2015 were published 3 new papers of autism:**

1. Trajkovski V, Spiroski M. DNA typing of HLA-A, -C, -B, AND -DRB1 in the children with autism in the Republic of Macedonia. *Bratisl Lek Listy* 2015; 116 (1): 14-19. DOI: 10.4149/BLL\_2015\_003.
2. Spiroski M. Immunological and Immunogenetic Changes in Children with Autistic Disorder in Republic of Macedonia. *SEE J Immunol.* 2015 Feb 08; 2015:20003. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3889/seejim.2015.20003>.
3. **Nolcheva M, Trajkovski V.** Exploratory study: stress, coping and support among parents of children with autism spectrum disorders. *Journal of Special Education and Rehabilitation* 2015; 16(3-4): 84-100.

**Participation in seminars and conferences in the country and abroad:**

1. Trajkovski V. Implementation of assistive technology in children with autism spectrum disorders. Book of abstracts - „Assistive technology to support human development“. Cracow, September 23, 2015; 20.
2. Trajkovski V. Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) treatments in children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Book of abstracts – 5th Congress of Croatian speech and language therapists with international participation – „Multidisciplinary approach in speech and language sciences and practice“. Osijek, September 24-26, 2015; 94.
3. Mateska N, Trajkovski V. Stress that parents of autistic children and parents of children with cerebral palsy face. Book of abstracts – 9th International Scientific Conference – „Special Education and Rehabilitation Today“. Belgrade, September 25-27, 2015; 31.
4. Weerkamp Bartholomeus P, Trajkovski V. Multimodalna intervencija za decu i odrasle sa autističnim spektrom poremećaja: „Reattach“. Zbornik rezimea ‡ IV stručno-naučni skup sa međunarodnim učešćem „Aktuelnosti u edukaciji i rehabilitaciji osoba sa smetnjama u razvoju“. Beograd, 24-25 oktobar, 2015; 19.

#### **4. Financial Report for 2015**

The fourth item on the agenda concerned the financial report for 2015 and it was presented by Doc. Dr. Olivera Rasic Canevska,. The account balance at the end of 2014 amounted to (17.286 MKD), total income (295.864 MKD), the total outcome (241.403 MKD) and the current status of the account is (71.747 MKD). The financial report was accepted by the audience.

#### **5. Election of president and executive board of MSSA;**

The president prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski opened the fifth item on the agenda by expressing great gratitude to all present for the trust that was given to him in the last two mandates and called the membership to give a proposal for a candidate or candidates for new president who after the election will chose the executive board. Dr. Silvana Markovska- Simonoska proposed the present president prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski to be elected again for the position of president of the MSSA, explaining that she believes that he is the most suited person for the position since he knows all the activities and problems within the organization and that he would continue to work as good as he has done so far. The president expressed gratitude for the proposal and asked if there is someone who would like to nominate another candidate for the position. Prof. Dr. Zoran Kitkanj proposed Mr. Jasmina Troshanska Ivanovska to be the vice president again. There was no other proposition for the place of president the proposition of Dr. Silvana Markovska- Simonoska for new president to be elected prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski was put to the vote. Unanimously as new president of MSSA was elected prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski, who thanked everyone present for the trust and expressed that under his leadership he will try as much as possible to upgrade the organization. Afterwards the new elected president started to appoint the members of the executive board. As vice president he proposed Mr. Jasmina Troshanska Ivanovska and said that she is excellent at her job and that he wouldn't want to change her. For secretary he proposed Filip Jurtoski for whom he said that he is at that position only one year and that he is executing his duties well and that he should stay as the secretary of MSSA. As treasurer he proposed Doc. Dr. Olivera Rasic Canevska for whom he said that he would also like to continue her job as treasurer. The president proposed Doc. Dr. Vladimir Ilievski as a member of the executive board who has contributed a lot for MSSA and therefore he would like him to again to be a member of the executive board. Prof. Dr. Zoran Kitkanj said that he would step down from his position as member of the executive board, as reasons he said that he isn't active enough and perhaps it would be best for younger people to take his place. The president agreed with prof. Dr. Zoran Kitkanj that he isn't active enough but he said that he would like him to stay cause of his title as a college professor. Doc. Dr Dejan Trajkov explained that the executive board should consist with more medical experts. To this proposal the president agreed and proposed Doc. Dr. Dejan Trajkov to be a elected as a member of the executive board and if there is someone else who would like to propose another expert from the fields of medicine to step up and propose. The president proposed at the place of Bisera Mladenovsa who isn't as active as she was to come Anita Stojcevska and take her place as a

member in the executive board as a young member and best student of the 2014 generation at the Institute of Special Education and Rehabilitation. Afterwards there was a proposal for Vesna Kostik Ivanovik, Doc. Dr. Vladimir Ilievski proposed Natasa Stanojkovska Trajkovska as new member of the executive board. After prof. Dr. Zoran Kitkanj stepped down and Bisera Mladenovska there were only two free positions left for new members of the executive board. In the MSSA statute it says that the executive board is consisted of seven members. Prof. Dr. Risto Petrov gave a proposal to change the statute cause it is an annual meeting and we can do it, and to change the number of the executive members from seven to nine. Doc. Dr. Dejan Trajkov agreed with prof. Dr. Risto Petrov. The president put the proposition to a vote and the membership voted yes for changing the maximum cap of seven members to nine in the executive board. The newly elected executive board consists of the following members: prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovski, Mr. Jasmina Ivanovska-Troshanska, doc. Dr. Vladimir Ilievski, doc. Dr. Olivera Rasic Canevska, doc. Dr. Dejan Trajkov, doc. Dr. Natasa Stanojkovska Trajkovska, Dr. Vesna Kostik Ivanovik, Filip Jurtoski and Anita Stojcevska. After the new executive board was elected the president continued with the next item on the agenda.

## **6. Work Programme of the Assembly in 2016.**

The president called upon doc Dr. Vladimir Ilievski to present the Programme of the Assembly for 2016.

During 2016 the Macedonian Scientific Society for Autism plans to execute more activities, such as:

- Education of the parent with children with Autism;
- Free training of several MSSA members for the Reattachment therapy method in February;
- Inclusion and planning of activities for the international day of the people with Autism 2 April;
- Making trainings in kinder gardens and regular primary schools of the territory of city Skopje;
- Participation of members of MSSA to project meetings on behalf the Erasmus plus EU project: „ Equality and social inclusion through positive parenting“, in June hosting in Macedonia for the partners from England, Belgium, Cyprus and Croatia;
- Participation of MSSA members on the 11<sup>th</sup> congress of Autism Europe which will be held in September 2016;
- Intensification of the cooperation with the local government;
- Defense of several master thesis and one Phd in correlation with autism by members of MSSA;
- Publishing at least one paper from the field of autism in a foreign journal with an international executive board;

After the presentation of the program prof. Dr. Natasa Cicevska-Jovanova gave a proposition for a sub in the sixth item on the agenda „ Defense of several master thesis and one Phd in correlation with autism by members of MSSA“ to be exempted from the program because it has nothing to do with MSSA. In the discussion prof Dr. Zoran Kitkanj and doc. Dr. Dejan Trajkov agreed with prof. Dr. Natasa Cicevska-Jovanova. prof Dr. Zoran Kitkanj gave a proposition to reformulate the name of the activity to a promotion of the work of members of MSSA. The president agreed to reformulate the name of the activity. The president added that the training for Reattachment will be canceled. The president pointed out that the program is flexible and that if there are good new ideas or projects they are always welcomed. The president announced that he is very pleased from the work of MSSA for 2015 and that he hopes that for 2016 if we could not overcome the success of 2015 at least to be as 2015. After the adoption of this proposition the Work Programme of the Assembly for 2016 was adopted by the members.

#### **7. Family functioning and behavior of the parents with children with autism;**

Under the seventh item of the agenda Mr. Rozalija Boskovska presented her master thesis before the membership of MSSA with her detailed presentation.

#### **8. Stress, methods of handling and support for the parents with children with autistic spectrum disorder.**

Under the eight item on the agenda Mr. Meri Nolceva presented her master thesis before the membership of MSSA with a detailed presentation.

#### **9. Various**

Prof. Dr. Risto Petrov pointed out that the world autism day shouldn't be avoided and should be marked with a massive promotion and campaign, so that someone else do not take our place for 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Also Prof. Dr. Risto Petrov pointed out that we should involve more aggressively in the assessment of the centers for autism and to give guidelines and trainings for improving their working capabilities.

After the ending of the ninth item on the agenda the president announced a surprise. He called the member Stojan Andonov with his newly formed musical group to entertain the membership with three songs.

With this the annual general meeting that was held on 25.12.2015 ended.

Date:  
25.12.2015

Minutes prepared by:  
Filip Jurtoski